

ZIKA VIRUS INFORMATION RELEASE

SOURCE: AIR FORCE MEDICAL OPERATIONS AGENCY

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Zika virus infection during pregnancy can cause serious birth defects. The virus is mainly spread by mosquitoes but can also spread through sexual contact. Outbreaks are ongoing in Mexico, Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands), Central America, South America, and Pacific Islands. Zika virus infection has been reported in service members, military family members and retirees who live in or have traveled to these areas. Many people with Zika virus infection do NOT have symptoms.

PREGNANT WOMEN SHOULD NOT TRAVEL TO ZIKA-AFFECTED AREAS. If you live in, plan travel to, or have returned from an area with Zika virus spread, please talk with your health care provider, MTF public health, or travel health clinic to learn how to protect you and your family. Additional information is available at www.cdc.gov/zika, www.health.mil/zika, and DoD's Zika Hotline (800-984-8523; DSN 421-3700).